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JUNE 1991



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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER  
OF THE PALO ALTO AMATEUR  
RADIO ASSOCIATION

AND

THE MENLO PARK C.D. AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

# PAARA



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## PAARA POLICIES

Membership in PAARA is \$6.00 per calendar year which includes a subscription to PAARAgaphs. Make payment to the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, P.O. Box 911, Menlo Park, CA 94026

Club Net 147.45 MHz Mondays 8:30 PM

Meet at 7:30 PM on the first friday of each month at the Menlo Park Recreation Center.

Send PAARAgaphs correspondence to:

Chuck Johnson N6VFH, EDITOR  
3309 Mt. Logan Drive  
San Jose, CA 95127

VOLUME 34

JUNE 1991

# FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

## JUNE IS...

A BUSY MONTH !  
HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE BIG EVENTS  
(PAARA'S FOOTHILL FLEA MARKET AND  
PAARA FIELD DAY 1991) !  
TIL NEXT MONTH, 73 DE YOUR EDITOR.

## SPEAKER OF THE MONTH

BOB NØARY --

ON STATE-OF-THE-ART  
PACKET BBS-ING!!!!!!

DINNER WITH SPEAKER, SU HONG'S, EL CAMINO  
OFF RAVENSWOOD, MENLO PARK--- 5:45 P.M. ON  
MEETING FRIDAY JUNE THE 7TH! TALK-IN:  
147.45/SIMPLEX AND 145.23- (W6APZ/R).....  
DE ANDY VE3FZK, PAARA PROGRAM CHAIRMAN.

# **PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

## **DE GERRY WAGLNV**

IF IT'S JUNE IT MUST BE TIME TO PANIC. THE CLUB THAT KNOWS HOW TO GET IT DONE IS GOING TO BE TESTED THIS MONTH WITH A FLEA MARKET TO MANAGE FOLLOWED BY AN EARLY FIELD DAY. IT GOES SOMETHING LIKE THIS: THE FIRST FRIDAY IS THE 7TH, GET HOME EARLY AFTER THE MEETING BECAUSE THE SECOND SATURDAY IS ONLY A FEW HOURS AWAY AND WE HAVE TO HAVE OUR FOOTHILL COLLEGE ACT TOGETHER ABOUT 6 A.M. N6PGM TELLS ME SHE HAS HER TREASURER'S TEAM ALL SET UP. WE WILL NEED A LOT OF OUR REGULAR TEAM MEMBERS SUCH AS W6APZ, N6FEG, VE3FZK, W6HLE, KD6ZL, K6EHS, W6VG, K6JJU, K6YT ETC. I MISSED THE LAST FLEA MARKET, BUT EXPECT THE EVENT TO BE IN THE PARKING LOT AT THE ENTRANCE. WE WILL GET EXACTLY 1 WEEKEND TO RECOVER AND THEN IT'S FIELD DAY ! FIELD DAY AS YOU KNOW IS THE 4TH WEEKEND OF THE MONTH NOT THE LAST. JUNE IS A LITTLE STRANGE THIS YEAR, IN HAVING 5 (COUNT 'EM) WEEKENDS. FORTUNATELY I DIDN'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE (HA HA) TO FIX THE 10 FOOT TOWER WHICH WAS BENT 2 YEARS AGO. I FINALLY GOT AROUND TO IT ABOUT A MONTH AGO AND IT WORKS QUITE NICELY NOW. HOPEFULLY I'VE LEARNED A LESSON ABOUT HOW TO PUT IT UP. ONE LESSON I DID LEARN IS THESE TOWERS ARE MADE OF INCREDIBLY MILD STEEL WHICH IS SOFT AS BUTTER. I THOUGHT I WOULD HAVE TO DRIVE OVER IT TO STRAIGHTEN IT OUT BUT A COUPLE OF JUMPS WITH MY FRAGILE LITTLE SELF DID THE TRICK JUST FINE. IT BROUGHT WITH IT THE REALIZATION OF HOW IMPORTANT GUYING IS TO THESE CRANK-UPS. THEY SEEM TO HAVE

NEXT PAGE----->

## **PRESIDENT'S CORNER DE GERRY WA6LNV**

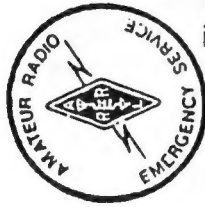
(FROM FACING PAGE)

VIRTUALLY NO BENDING STRENGTH WHATSOEVER. IN ANY CASE OUR PLAN IS TO ENTER 3A WITH MYSELF AND WB7TEM AS PHONE CAPTAINS AND KEYT AS CW CAPTAIN. WE WILL MOVE ONE OF THE PHONE STATIONS TO CW IF IT LOOKS PRODUCTIVE. WE ARE GOING TO TRY TO PUSH A LITTLE HARDER FOR POINTS THIS YEAR SO IF YOU KNOW ANY CRACKER JACK OPERATORS INTRODUCE THEM QUICKLY. WE WILL START PUTTING UP EQUIPMENT AT 11AM FRIDAY THE 21ST SO PLEASE PLAN ON BEING THERE EVEN IF YOU ONLY CAN TAKE A COUPLE HOURS OFF FROM WORK. FINALLY A BIG THANKS TO ALL WHO MADE THE PAARA PICNIC A SUCCESS. THE WEATHER COOPERATED AND THE EYEBALL QSO'S WERE A PLEASURE AS USUAL. W6LII SHOWED OFF HIS MINIATURE 2-METER QUAD---PRESUMABLY FOR A KILOWATT, AND A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL! -DE WA6LNV-

## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**

ON BEHALF OF THE ENTIRE CLUB I'D  
LIKE TO WELCOME THE FOLLOWING  
NEW MEMBERS -- DE LILY N6PGM

JOHN CHRISTMAN -- N6XVH  
JOSEPH PISTRITTO -- NH3CKF  
STEVE SIDELLS -- NO CALL  
MATTHEW JOHNSON -- K1GWA  
BILL FENECH-- AA6ZK  
BOB LOMBAERDE -- WB6WGM



## SCARES UPDATE by Lily N6FGM



The Menlo Park Fire Protection District has one of only four heavy rescue teams in the country. They are a highly trained group of firefighters who are ready at anytime to be sent anywhere in the world to help in the most difficult rescues.

On April 26, 1991, at the conclusion of a week long training course for twenty four firefighters and their instructors, SCARES had the privilege of providing the **ONLY** communications for more than six hours of simulated exercises. The five exercises included searching in confined unlit spaces, tunnelling through concrete, climbing towers, and rappelling. The most dramatic exercise took place on the Dumbarton Bridge where bridge engineers were reportedly injured. We accompanied the firefighters through dark tunnels inside the bridge structure, hopping girders every few feet, and out onto a long narrow catwalk suspended 140 feet above the bay under the center of the bridge. It was dark, windy, and cold that night with only moonlight, helmet lights, and lanterns. While on the bridge SCARES provided all the communications for the better part of three hours while the firefighters prepared to rappel over the side to rescue the fallen victims. (The writer of this article is terrified of heights, but realized that if the rescue dog could maneuver on the catwalk so could she.)

I have been to a lot of exciting places on this little green planet we call Earth, but none more exhilarating than the catwalk on the Dumbarton Bridge.

I want to thank my team members for everything they did. I could go on forever mentioning each persons unique contribution, but just let me say I have never had the privilege of working with such outstanding people.

The heroes are:

Bob	WB6WGM
David	AA6WT
Joe	KB6HDC
Tom	K6JBR
Robin	N6ZPO
Ben	KA6SIQ
Dusty	K6MPN
Dick	K6ANN
Bill	AA6FA
Jeff	N6WLA
Dave	N6UOW
Larry	KB6QWW
Pat	KB6HZM
Richard	N6POC
Lily	N6PGM

**AMATEUR  
RADIO**  
**COMMUNICATIONS**



de Lily N6PGM

# PAARA VE QST DE JT WA6BXT

At the May VE session 42 people were given a total of 86 elements. Among them was PAARA member KB6UDA, Ted, who upgraded to Advanced class. Congratulations Ted!

PAARA members on the May team were Dudley, WB6WAU (team leader); Gil, KJ6TF; Mike, AA6NH; Dusty, K6MPN; Ron, W6VG; Bill, WB6UVO; and Joan, WA6BXT. If you would like to join the team contact Dudley at (408) 245-4801.

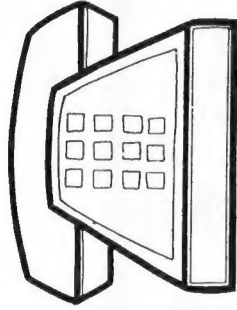
Our next VE exam will be June 15, at 11 a.m., at the Ampex cafeteria on Broadway in Redwood City. We test Novice through Extra. No reservations necessary.

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ON TOP OF HIS ACADEMIC/WORK/FAMILY COMMITMENTS.  
(-ED.)

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PAARA DATEBOOK  
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SAT. JUNE 8TH EARLY!  
FIELD DAY SET UP  
FRI. JUNE 21 11 A.M.  
FIELD DAY OPERATIONS  
SAT. JUNE 22 11 A.M. -  
SUN. JUNE 23 11 A.M.

BE THERE OR BE SQUARE!



Andy Kofcsak  
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VE3FZK

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